

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/722,583 Examiner	LEE, JUN SIK Art Unit
	Brook Kebede	2823

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 18 August 2003.
 2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4,5 and 7-10.
 3. The drawings filed on 09 September 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
 4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
 6. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____.
7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.
6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Joseph A. Kolasch on September 29, 2003.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

In Claim 1, lines 12-13, delete "H₂O, a mixture of H₂ and O₂ in which an amount of H₂ is smaller than an amount of O₂,".

In Claim 4, lines 22-23, delete "H₂O, a mixture of H₂ and O₂ in which an amount of H₂ is smaller than an amount of O₂,".

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7-10 allowed over prior art of record.

Reasons for Allowance

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:.

The prior art of record neither anticipates nor renders obvious the claimed subject matter of the instant application as a whole either taken alone or in combination, in particular, prior art of record does not teach "removing the photoresist using an etching gas that is non-reactive with respective to the lower electrode, wherein the etching gas is one of a mixture of H₂O, NH₃, and

N_2 , a mixture of N_2 and NH_3 , a mixture of NH_3 and H_2O , and a mixture of N_2 and H_2O ,” as recited in claims 1 and 4 respectively.

Claims 2, 5, and 7-10 are also allowed as being dependent of the allowed independent base claim.

Conclusion

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Correspondence

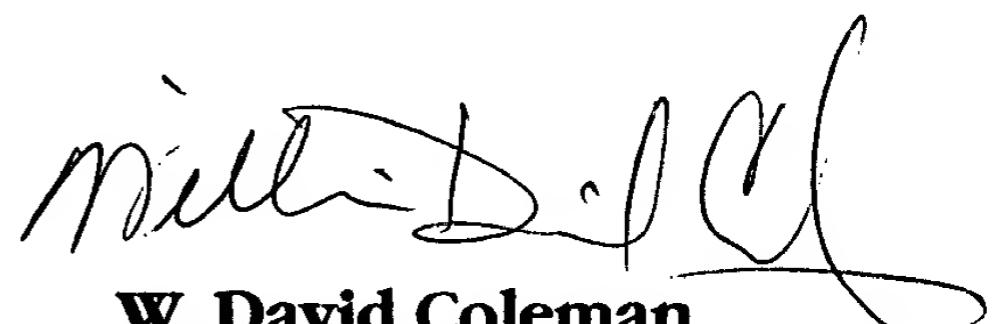
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brook Kebede whose telephone number is (703) 306-4511. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5 Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Olik Chaudhuri can be reached on (703) 306-2794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Brook Kebede

BD
September 29, 2003



W. David Coleman
Primary Examiner